

# GOOD NEWS AT GRACE

**Grace United Church • November 24, 2023**

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'GraceUnitedTavistock'

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[www.graceunitedtavistock.com](http://www.graceunitedtavistock.com)

'graceunitedchurchtavistock'

## Northern Youth Abroad

Northern Youth Abroad, is a not for profit organization that cultivates youth leadership, individual career goals, cross-cultural awareness and global citizenship, amongst youth from Nunavut and North West Territories (N.W.T.) between ages 15-22. Youth can acquire professional skills and training.

For 4 weeks in July 2023 my daughter Lisa and husband Brooce, hosted 2 girls, Eshyla from NWT and Alicia from Clyde River Nunavut. They worked at various work-sites in Milton during the day. Lisa, Brooce and my grandson Kelly took them to a Blue Jays game, Niagara Falls, Theatre, and Wasaga Beach (2 times). Their favourite excursion was several days spent at our family cottage in Muskoka. They went canoeing, swimming, fishing, and enjoyed all that nature had to offer. They loved bicycling in Milton and daily trips to the local variety store as supplies in their towns are so limited and run out quickly. Eshyla even played soccer on a local team—she loves soccer. Alicia does beautiful beading. My family and myself had a great visit with them. They were shy at first but soon opened up to us! Hopefully they take home some positive feelings about their experiences here. Sadly Eshyla's house burnt to the ground from a forest fire the day before she left Milton.

Submitted by Bev Vandervliet



Brooce, Kelly, Eshyla, Lisa, and Alicia

## Upcoming Services and Dates

**Nov 19 - Dec 10:** Project Good Tidings

**Nov. 25th:** 3:00 pm Funeral Service for Dorothy Kennedy

**Nov. 26th:** 10:30 am Worship Service led by Rev. Mary Boland. Sunday School. All are welcome to stay for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following the service.

11:35 am Christmas Musical Rehearsal led by Marilyne

1:00 pm Movie Afternoon

**Nov. 29th:** 7:00 pm Board Meeting

**Nov. 30th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

**Dec. 3rd:** 10:30 am Advent 1 Worship Service with Communion led by Rev Marg Smith. Sunday School. All are welcome to stay for a light snack, refreshments and social time in Zion Hall following the service.

11:35 am Christmas Musical Rehearsal

**Dec. 5th:** 12:00 pm UCW Christmas Luncheon

**Dec. 6th:** 7:00 pm Session Meeting

**Dec. 7th:** 7:00 pm Choir Practice

7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting

**Dec. 10th:** 10:30 am Advent 2 Worship Service

**All dates and events can be found on our website calendar as well.**



**Link to the calendar:** [GraceUC Calendar](#)

**Services will be recorded and can be found on our You Tube Channel usually later Sunday.**



**Link to** [Grace United Tavistock You Tube](#)

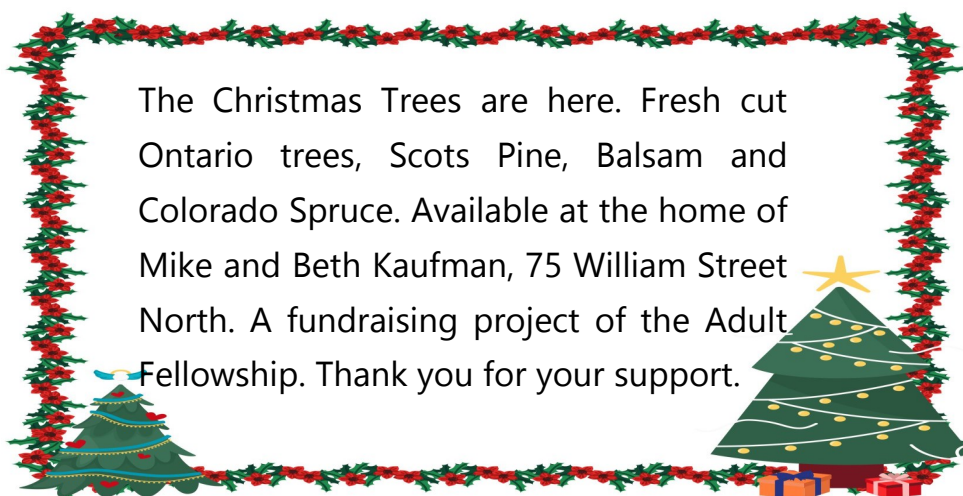


**Emergency Pastoral Care:**

Rev Marg is on study week  
Nov 20 - 26. Please  
contact Rev Maggie Dieter  
for emergency pastoral  
care needs 416.520.3280



The Christmas Trees are here. Fresh cut Ontario trees, Scots Pine, Balsam and Colorado Spruce. Available at the home of Mike and Beth Kaufman, 75 William Street North. A fundraising project of the Adult Fellowship. Thank you for your support.



### Contact us

Rev Marg Smith cell 289 926 0707 margsmith@rogers.com

Carol Young cell 519-301-1356 tavigraceyouth@gmail.com

Office 519 655 2151 graceunitedtavistock@gmail.com

E-transfer donation email gracetavistockdonation@rogers.com

Office Hours (please call ahead for an appointment)

Rev. Marg Smith, Thursdays 9:30 - 3:30 pm

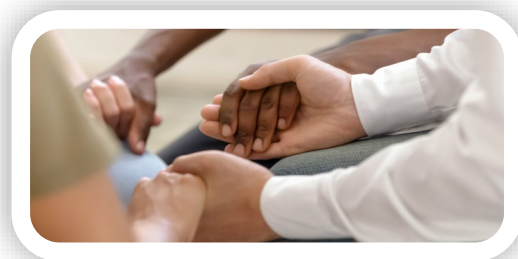
Katherine Brenneman, Thursdays 9:30 - 2:00 pm

## Do you have a prayer request?

*“In all things let your requests be known to God in prayer.” (Philippians 4:6)*

Grace has a group of wonderful and dedicated people that form a prayer chain. If you, or anyone you know is in need of prayer, please reach out to the chair of Grace PCO, Bev Neeb 519 655-2695, or Rev Marg Smith 289 926 0707 and we will begin praying for you.

- † keep Tricia Wettlaufer and her family in your prayers as they mourn the passing of her mother Dorothy Kennedy.
- † pray for Brenda Mohr as she copes with health issues.
- † pray for Keith Weitzel as he deals with health issues.
- † pray for Marg Pletsch as she deals with health issues.
- † pray for Ron Rudy as he deals with health issues.
- † pray for Ken Brenneman as he deals with health issues.
- † pray for Shelley Walker as she deals with health issues.
- † pray for Larry Odette, father of Ken Odette, who is dealing with health issues.
- † pray for Mary Mitchell, a friend of Rev Marg's, as she deals with health issues.



### Movie Afternoon--Movies to take us into Advent and Christmas

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26--pizza lunch offered at 12:30 pm, movies begin at 1 pm. Please let Carol know prior if coming for lunch so we can order the pizza!**

2 movies offered!

In Knox Parlour--**THE NATIVITY STORY (2006, rated PG)** In Nazareth, teenager Mary is



betrouthed to the local carpenter, Joseph. Mary is visited by an angel and told that she will fulfill a prophecy and as a virgin give birth to God's son, the savior of the world. Mary's pregnancy brings her the scorn of the community and Joseph struggles to believe her seemingly outlandish story. Meanwhile, a census forces every man and his family to return to his place of birth. Joseph and Mary set out on a long and arduous journey to Bethlehem. This story is based on the Biblical account of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Upstairs in the youth room--**THE STAR (2017, rated G)** In Sony Pictures

Animation's THE STAR, a small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free, and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a lovable sheep who has lost her flock and Dave, a dove with lofty aspirations. Along with three wisecracking camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his new friends follow the Star and become accidental heroes in the greatest story ever told - the first Christmas



**GAP Christmas Project: This Sunday the Sunday School will complete their Christmas project. We will need help delivering the gifts. Please come downstairs after the service to see how you can help. Thank you.**



# PROJECT GOOD TIDINGS

“...For behold, I bring  
you good tidings of  
great joy which shall be  
to all people...” Luke  
2:10

Sunday,  
November 19, 2023

To

Sunday,  
December 10, 2023

## *What is Project Good Tidings?*

It's a time for us to gather up gifts to help spread good tidings to all. We collect items in bushel baskets for three weeks and see what our gifts together can do. It's really quite amazing what we accomplish together. It's all organized by RECESS (Grade 5-8s). Project Good Tidings challenges the groups, committees and organizations and everyone at Grace UC to give something that will spread the joy and love we know at Christmas. Come be a part of something incredible!

The people we help are associated with the places that the United Church of Canada supports and/or places that we at Grace UC support in our community.

## **Here's who each group is collecting for and suggested items:**

- \* Adult Fellowship—The Christmas Place
- \* Board—TAP
- \* Choir—The Christmas Place
- \* Middle Aged Pews—Shelterlink (for a special stocking project there-- please talk with Carol Shewfelt)
- \* RECESS— Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner—please talk with Carol Young)
- \* Committees of Pastoral Care & Outreach, Worship, and Christian Education—TAP
- \* Sunday School— Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner— please talk with Carol Young)
- \* UCW—Optimism Place
- \* Youth Group—Shelterlink (items for a special Christmas dinner— please talk with Carol Young)

*Don't worry if you are not in a group, committee or organization. You may add to any of these baskets at any time or there will be a basket available (marked "CONGREGATION") for additional gifts for any of these aid agencies, located in Zion Hall. And please know there is no pressure to give to all the groups to which you belong. Give what you can. Since 2004, over 540 baskets have been collected through Project Good Tidings for local agencies! What a great way to share and care for one another! If the baskets get full, we'll find another one to get filled. Watch the baskets fill and come on December 10 when we bring together and dedicate all our gifts. In advance, we thank you for what you give.*

## ABOUT THE PLACES WE ARE SUPPORTING AND WHAT TO DONATE:

### **TAVISTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)**

*This year, these items would be most helpful: gas and grocery cards as well as paper products like toilet paper or diapers size 4, 5, 6, coffee, tea, hot chocolate . New items only (no opened packages) They cannot accept items that are expired. [www.tapisforyou.com](http://www.tapisforyou.com)*

### **STRATFORD/PERTH SHELTERLINK**

*Located in Stratford, Shelterlink exists to provide Perth County youth ages 16-24, who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, with shelter, advocacy services and basic needs. By providing homeless and at-risk youth with the basic needs of food and shelter, they will have more opportunities to make good life style choices, stay in school, find employment or attend counseling. New items only. The Middle Aged Pews, RECESS, SS and Youth Group will be providing filled stocking bags and items for a Christmas dinner, respectively. Please talk with Carol Shewfelt (MAP) or Carol Young (Youth Group & RECESS, SS) for needs. [www.shelterlink.org](http://www.shelterlink.org)*

### **THE CHRISTMAS PLACE**

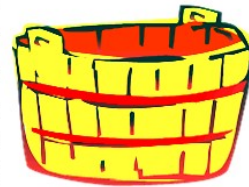
*The Christmas Place is part of Operation Sharing in Woodstock. It is a store that gives families the opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts at a lower price. Parents shop for their children at reduced prices, enabling parents to shop on their own, purchase something their children would wear, play with or use. Some suggestions: gifts for teens, gifts for moms, gifts for dads, new toys for children and gift cards for local stores. Any gift you would choose to give YOUR family would be appreciated. New items only. [www.operationsharing.com](http://www.operationsharing.com)*

### **OPTIMISM PLACE**

*Optimism Place is an emergency shelter for women and children in Perth County. Their needs list include: children's slippers (any size), children's pajamas (any size), children's jackets (any size), toys (any age) , personal hygiene products such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, q-tips etc. (except pads & tampons - we have lots of these!), toilet paper, paper towels, bath towels and t-towels, pillows, slippers, dish soap and hand soap. New items only. [www.optimismplace.com](http://www.optimismplace.com)*

## PROJECT GOOD TIDINGS

“good tidings we  
bring to you and  
your kin, good  
tidings for  
Christmas and a  
Happy New  
Year!”



God, you bless us each day with good things. We live with respect in creation and we are most like you when we share and care for one another.  
Bless these empty baskets and our joy in filling them. Amen!



## Advent and Christmas at Grace:

**Dec. 3rd 10:30 am Advent 1 Communion Service**

**Dec. 10th 10:30 am Advent 2 Service**

**Dec 17th 10:30 am Advent 3 - Christmas Musical**

**Dec. 24th 10:30 am Advent 4 Lessons and Carols Service**

**7:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service**



### High Noon Lunch

#### Zion Hall Grace United Church

#### **Hav e Lunch with a neig hbours!**

Socialize over a nutritious home-style lunch  
from 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm.

Stay for entertainment, speakers,  
music or activities

**Dec: 14th** Music with Dr Alicia Cundall. We are pleased and honoured to have as our guest Dr. Alicia Cundall, local physician and professional harpist. In addition to sharing her musical talents with us Dr. Cundall will also inform us about EM Global Connections, an organization for which she advocates. EM Global Connections provides emergency physicians in low resource environments greater access to hands-on skill based training.

### STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS THAT MAKE OTHERS SICK

As we enter the fall season, we know there are an abundance of viruses, including COVID-19, requiring us to use caution. One positive outcome from the pandemic has been our understanding of how these viruses spread. Remember the universal precautions that can help us keep each other protected:

- Stay at home if you feel unwell
- Wash your hands frequently
- Wear a mask if it makes you feel more comfortable, or if you have been unwell in the past 5-10 days
- Each of us needs to take responsibility for how best to protect oneself, and consider that others may be vulnerable.
- The [Huron Perth Public Health Unit](#) is a great resource providing current information on risks and protective measures.

**Staying  
Healthy**



# Hebron UCW's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual "Christmas Cookie Walk"



Saturday, December 2, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Hebron United Church

676241 16th Line – at the

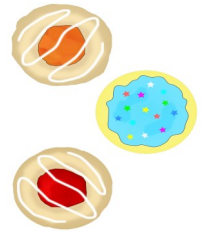
Corner of County Rd. 8 and 16th Line

Come early! Select from dozens of delightful and delicious cookies, ready to make your Christmas entertaining a little easier!

Please bring your own containers!

(We will have some boxes available)

Cost: \$10.00 per dozen



## Alternative Christmas Gifts and Giving Tuesday (Nov 28)

This season consider giving the  
"Gift of Camp" and making a donation to  
help cover expenses.

Check out the Camp Bimini website for more information!

[www.campbimini.ca](http://www.campbimini.ca)



## SIT N KNIT, STAY N CROCHET



Searching for donations of yarn or money for purchasing yarn so we can continue to provide crocheted and knitted prayer shawls and other items for our community. If you would like to donate yarn or funds, please talk with Carol Young or Mary Boland.

A reminder if you know someone who could use the warmth of a prayer shawl, please contact us too!

**Giving Tuesday Is November 28!** Giving Tuesday, the world's largest generosity movement.



After the headlines fade,  
the emergency remains.

**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

Everyone has something to give and every act of generosity counts. This year, The United Church of Canada is focusing on the Emergency Response efforts that are so vitally needed worldwide. While headlines about emergencies come and go, the ones suffering, the children and families, remain in critical need. The results of the conflict, such as the one in Israel and Palestine, will be with us for years, resulting in a Middle East humanitarian crisis. Each person—facing the worst times of their lives—urgently needs your support. Giving Tuesday itself is next week, but it's never too early to transform a life.

If you are able, we urge you to give now to empower lives and give to emergency response efforts.





GriefShare

## Surviving the Holidays

Encouragement, support, and valuable tools to navigate the challenges of the season.

Join us for this 2-hour seminar

### Location

Knox United Church  
92 Northumberland St.  
Ayr, ON, N0B 1E0

### Postponed to

Sun Dec 10. 1:00

- 3:00 pm

### Contact info

admin@knoxayr.ca  
519-632-7461

[griefshare.org/holidays](http://griefshare.org/holidays)

Tickets to attend the Dec 5th **Sing for the Joy Of It** concert in person are sold out, however if you would like to be added to a cancellation list or purchase a link to live stream the show, please contact Leslie Belland at [singforthejoyofit@gmail.com](mailto:singforthejoyofit@gmail.com) or call 226-921-0275.



Art by Mervin Windsor

## Whose Land is This, Anyway?

Welcome to Home on Native Land, a self-guided course about Indigenous justice in Canada.

Through a series of 10 videos, cartoons & lessons, you'll take a walk down the back alley of history – and the frontlines of legal action – with Anishinaabe comedian Ryan McMahon. <https://homeonnativeland.com/>







# Camp Bimini Annual Member's Meeting

Monday  
December 4, 2023

7:00pm

Avondale United  
Church  
194 Avondale Ave,  
Stratford, ON

For the purpose of receiving annual report, financial statements, budget, and for election of board of directors and officers. For the annual report, please contact us at [campbimini@cyg.net](mailto:campbimini@cyg.net) or 519-271-4129.

## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAM TEAM FOR THE 2024 SEASON

VISIT [HTTP://CAMPBIMINI.CA/STAFF/JOIN-OUR-TEAM/](http://CAMPBIMINI.CA/STAFF/JOIN-OUR-TEAM/)

Application deadline is  
**DECEMBER 10, 2023 at  
5pm Eastern.**

Two persons to be hired

[WWW.CAMPBIMINI.CA](http://WWW.CAMPBIMINI.CA)




**HANDEL'S  
MESSIAH**

Paul Grambo, Artistic Director ~ Hayoon Kim, Accompanist

London Pro Musica Choir, Strings & Soloists  
[www.londonpromusica.ca](http://www.londonpromusica.ca)  
facebook.com/londonpromusica

**Saturday, December 16, 2023 - 2:00 pm**  
St. Marys United Church, 85 Church Street South, St. Marys  
(Doors at 1:30 pm)  
**\$25 General Admission**

celebrating 50 years and beyond

SCAN TO BUY TICKETS

Logos: KKP, Choirs Ontario, London Arts Council, London

## CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A DRAMATIC READING  
WITH MUSIC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th  
Avondale United Church 7:00 pm



MUSICIANS  
Loreena McKennitt  
The Cratchit Carollers

READERS  
Lauren Bowler  
Brittlestar: Stewart Reynolds  
Ijeoma Emesowun  
Christopher Heyerdahl  
Sheila McCarthy  
John Miller

HOSTED BY  
Judy Maddren

ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT MCKOWEN WITH A GRATEFUL  
TIP OF THE HAT TO THE GHOST OF BERNARD BEHRENS